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AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1 - 4 (Canceled).

Claims 5 - 11 (Withdrawn).

Claim 14 (Currently Amended). A method of treating or preventing severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in an individual in need thereof, the method comprising administering an effective amount of IFN  $\alpha$  to the individual.

Claim 15 (Original). The method of claim 14, wherein the IFN  $\alpha$  is administered within 24 hours of the appearance of a symptom of SARS in the individual.

Claim 16 (Original). The method of claim 14, wherein the IFN  $\alpha$  is administered within 48 hours of the appearance of a symptom of SARS in the individual.

Claims 17 -19 (Withdrawn).

Claim 20 (Currently Amended). A method of treating or preventing severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in an individual in need thereof, the method comprising administering an effective amount of IFN- $\alpha$  and an effective amount of IFN- $\gamma$  to the individual.

Claim 21 (Original). The method of claim 20, wherein the IFN- $\alpha$  and the IFN- $\gamma$  are administered within 24 hours of the appearance of a symptom of SARS in the individual.

Claim 22 (Original). The method of claim 20, wherein the IFN- $\alpha$  and the IFN- $\gamma$  are administered within 48 hours of the appearance of a symptom of SARS in the individual.

Claim 23 (Original). A method of reducing the risk that an individual will develop severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), the method comprising administering to the individual an effective amount of IFN- $\alpha$ .

Claim 24 (Withdrawn)

Claim 25 (Original). A method of reducing the risk that an individual will develop severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), the method comprising administering to the individual an effective amount of IFN- $\alpha$  and an effective amount of IFN- $\gamma$ .

Claim 26 (Currently Amended). The method of any one of claims 14-16, 20-23 and 25 ~~1, 5, 9, 14, 17, 20, and 23-25~~, further comprising administering an effective amount of a nucleotide analog or a nucleoside analog.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended). The method of any one of claims 14-16, 20-23 and 25 ~~1, 5, 9, 14, 17, 20, and 23-25~~, further comprising administering an effective amount of ribavirin.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended). The method of any one of claims 14-16, 20-23 and 25 ~~1-4, 9-13, 14-16, 20-23, and 25~~, wherein the IFN- $\alpha$  is a consensus interferon.